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**EASTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY**

Contact: Shelly Flock (csslf@eiu.edu)
Vicki Woodard (csvns@eiu.edu)
217-581-7650
217-581-8444 (fax)

NEWS

Office of Media Relations
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920-3099
(www.eiu.edu/~pubaff/omr.htm)

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EIU TO SHOWCASE CAREER, TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS AT EFFINGHAM OPEN HOUSE

EFFINGHAM - Representatives from Eastern Illinois University's School of Technology will be in Effingham Tuesday, Oct. 23, to share information about undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs that may be of special interest to working adults.

EIU representatives will be available from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in the lobby of the Kluthe Center to answer questions about Eastern's bachelor of science in career and organizational studies and master of science in technology programs in addition to graduate certificate programs in work performance improvement, quality systems and computer technology. The public is invited.

The career and organizational studies program, formerly known as career occupations, enables individuals with significant employment experience and professional and/or technical expertise to earn a bachelor of science degree

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Eastern Illinois University emphasizes distinguished teaching in the liberal arts, sciences and selected professions. A traditional, residential state university of recognized quality, Eastern enrolls more than 10,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The university, located in Charleston, also serves the region through a variety of non-credit and off-site degree programs, as well as cultural and recreational opportunities. Eastern's pursuit of excellence attracts well-qualified students of an increasingly diverse population and a teaching faculty active in research and public service who utilize the latest technology.

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CAREER, TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

by attending classes either full or part-time. Since more than 90 percent of the students enrolled in the program work full-time, evening and weekend classes are offered both on-campus in Charleston and off-campus at sites in Effingham, Mattoon and Charleston, Champaign and Urbana, Olney and other cities in Central Illinois.

Students have the option of taking from 3 to 12 semester hours of courses each semester. Not only is the program unique because it allows students to continue working while pursuing a degree, but it also enables them to earn credit for their work experience by completing a portfolio in addition to taking coursework that is tailored to their career goals, said Deborah Woodley, professor in Eastern's School of Technology and COS program coordinator.

Fields of study range from health, construction and electronic technology to training and development and supervision and leadership.

Woodley said the program has been beneficial to students who want to receive a promotion in their current occupations, complete an educational program they started but never finished and become more marketable.

For more information about Eastern's career and organizational studies program, call Woodley at 217-581-6270; e-mail, cfdaw@eiu.edu; or visit the COS web site at www.eiu.edu/~tech/DegCOS.htm.

The graduate programs in technology prepare students to become successful leaders in today's technological and global environment. The curriculum is designed to provide students with opportunities for developing advanced professional, technical and

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personal competencies in the discipline. It enables students to identify, develop and implement quality strategies and practices in contemporary organizations and to enhance their research and communication skills necessary for technological leadership. They also gain an appreciation of ethical and social implications of technology related to a global and technological society.

Many graduates from the program enjoy successful careers as part of management teams in various organizations. Typical positions held by former graduates include manufacturing engineer/manager, quality assurance engineer/manager/director, plant manager, human resources/employment manager, training program development coordinator/director, training consultant/specialist, career and technology education teacher, school librarian and technology director/coordinator.

Graduates work effectively in companies of various sizes, including Boeing, Caterpillar, Ingersoll-Rand, Agri-Fab, Carle Hospital, Amdoc, University of Illinois, EIU and many other industrial, educational, governmental or service organizations.

The master of science in technology degree requires a total of 32 credit hours of coursework for the non-thesis option and 30 hours for the thesis option. Typical full-time students complete their degree programs in one year. Most working students finish their degree requirements in about two to three years. The degree program provides students with opportunities for focused study in technology

management, training and development, career and technical education and computer technology.

The technology management curriculum is suitable for students who desire to be part of an effective management team in industrial related organizations. The program offers a blend of technical knowledge and management principles needed for effective leadership. Key areas include total quality systems, statistical quality assurance, design for quality, advanced manufacturing management, industrial productivity analysis, industrial simulation, advanced computer integrated manufacturing, plant layout and material handling technology, problem solving techniques for manufacturing, reliability and product innovation.

The training and development track offers a cluster of courses that are suitable for students who aspire to be part of performance improvement teams in industry and business. The focus is on helping people in the organization reach excellence in their respective capacities. Studies include work performance technology, leadership, training systems management, instructional technology, conflict in the workplace, productive work teams and accelerated training and learning.

The career and technical education curriculum is designed for individuals who are committed to excellence in learning and education in the areas of business education, family and consumer sciences education and technology education. Studies include curriculum development, social foundations of education, principles of career development, occupational perspectives, training program development, accelerated training and learning, administration and coordination techniques of cooperative

occupational education and instructional technology. The computer technology curriculum provides students with knowledge and skills in current computer technology. Key areas include data communications and networking technology, advanced database technology, multimedia and web technology, management of computer technology, data acquisition, industrial system simulation, advanced computer integrated manufacturing, automatic identification and other industrial applications of computer technology.

The School of Technology also offers three graduate certificate programs to meet more focused needs of students and working professionals.

The 12-hour quality systems certificate program is designed to provide students and professionals working in industry and business with focused coursework leading to improvement in the quality of products and services.

The 15-hour work performance improvement certificate program is designed to meet the needs of graduate students as well as training and development practitioners in the field of work performance improvement. The certificate will signify that recipients possess the knowledge and skills needed for performance consulting and training. It will also make them more marketable to potential employers.

The 15-hour computer technology certificate program is designed to provide graduate students and professionals working in industry and related organizations with coursework focused on current state-of-the-art computer technology. Key areas include data communications and networking technology, database technology, multimedia and web technology, management of computer technology and applications of computer

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technology.

All graduate courses are taught by highly qualified and student-focused faculty. Courses are delivered on evenings or weekends throughout the year. Many of these courses are offered through on-campus or off-campus sites close to where students live or online via the Internet.

For more information, contact Peter Ping Liu, coordinator of graduate study in Eastern's School of Technology, at 217-581-6267; e-mail, cfpl@eiu.edu; or visit the school's web site at www.eiu.edu/~tech/.